

Arlene Schler  
 Jessica Scoratow, Georgetown Against  
 Gun Violence  
 Rabbi Susan Shankman, Washington He-  
 brew Congregation  
 Katie Simon, Policy Organizing Manager,  
 Brady Campaign  
 Dianne Snyder  
 The Honorable Liane Sorenson, Board  
 Chair, Delaware Coalition Against Gun Vi-  
 olence  
 Winnie Stachelberg, Executive Vice Presi-  
 dent, External Affairs, Center for American  
 Progress  
 Kiersten Stewart, Policy Director, Futures  
 Without Violence  
 Susan Stoltenberg, Executive Director,  
 YWCA of Greater Portland  
 Diane Tattersall, Last Chance Animal Res-  
 cue  
 Sarah Trumble, Senior Policy Counsel,  
 Third Way  
 The Honorable Nancy Tyra-Lukens,  
 Mayor, City of Eden Prairie, Minnesota  
 Roberta Valente, Chief Officer for Govern-  
 ment Affairs, The National Domestic Vi-  
 olence Hotline  
 Kristin Wald, Start Out Fresh Intervention  
 Advocates  
 Lori Weinstein, CEO, Jewish Women Inter-  
 national (JWI)  
 Melissa Youssef, Legal Aid, Institute of  
 Policy Research  
 \*Advisory Committee Members

HONORING WILLIAM BYRON  
 RUMFORD

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2016

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of an outstanding member of the East Bay community the Honorable William Byron Rumford.

He was born in Courtland, Arizona in 1915. As a child, he shined shoes, sold newspapers, and graduated from George Washington Carver High School in Phoenix in 1926. After finishing his studies at Sacramento Junior College in 1931, he earned his pharmacy degree at the University of California, San Francisco. After he graduated, he took a number of exams for employment and was discriminated against at every turn. He fought his way through by appealing his oral examination, ultimately becoming a member of the California Board of Pharmacy.

Mr. Rumford worked in the Bay Area as an assistant pharmacist and as a venereal disease investigator for the state. In 1942, he co-invested in a pharmacy on Sacramento Street in Berkeley, which he later purchased and renamed Rumford's Pharmacy (now known as the Rumford Clinic). Later, served as the director of the Oakland chapter of the Red Cross, president of the East Bay Health Association, and was on the region's Democratic Central Committee.

Mr. Rumford went on to lead an impactful and significant political career, and ultimately became the first African American legislator from Northern California. Inspired by the disparities he witnessed in his pharmaceutical career, he joined the Berkeley Emergency Housing Committee in 1942 and the Berkeley Rent Board in 1944. In addition, he worked with the unofficial Berkeley Interracial Committee which was intended to ease tensions between the

Black community of Berkeley and White southerners who were moving in. He was also a member of the Appomattox Club, which was one of the first African American political organizations in the country; there was little hope for an African American candidate at that time, so the organization supported White candidates who they believed were right on political issues affecting the African American community.

Mr. Rumford did not seek to become a professional politician; instead, he was a neighborhood pharmacist who was passionate about addressing the biggest issues impacting his community. Eventually, Mr. Rumford ran for election in the California Assembly and won in 1949. At first he represented mostly African American areas of Oakland and a portion of South Berkeley. In 1960, however, the district was enlarged to include more of Berkeley and Albany. As an Assembly member, Mr. Rumford produced several effective pieces of legislation. In 1949, he worked tirelessly to pass The Bill to End Discrimination in the National Guard, which lessened racial discrimination in the National Guard. He also introduced legislation early in his Assembly tenure pertaining to fair trade, small businesses, child polio immunizations, atomic energy conversion, and environmental pollution.

Today, Mr. Rumford is best remembered for three pieces of legislation: the California Fair Employment Practices Act of 1959, which lessened the impact of race on hiring decisions; the Good Samaritan Act of 1959, which garnered national attention as the first law in the country to protect professionals in emergency situations; and the law that bore his name: the Rumford Fair Housing Act of 1963, which failed to survive a referendum challenge, but was upheld by the Supreme Court of the United States. This act served as California's main enforcement authority against race-based housing discrimination, by way of housing covenants, until the passage of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1968.

His tremendous legacy paved the way for civil rights legislation nationally, and has been beautifully honored by the William Byron Rumford Memorial Project. This project is led by a diverse group of community members who see the rapid changing of South Berkeley's demographics as a ripe time to honor his leadership, activism, and community, while preserving the neighborhood's history.

On a personal note, William was a trailblazer. Had it not been for him, I never would have been elected to the CA legislature. I owe him a debt of gratitude and I will be forever grateful.

Today, California's 13th Congressional District salutes the legacy of the Honorable William Byron Rumford. His contributions have truly impacted countless lives through the East Bay area and the country. I join all of Mr. Rumford's loved ones and the community members involved in the William Byron Rumford Memorial Project in celebrating his incredible life and legacy.

HONORING THE NATIONAL ASSO-  
 CIATION OF BLACK MILITARY  
 WOMEN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2016

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an organization that has served our veteran community with great distinction for 40 years, the National Association of Black Military Women.

The NABMW is an association of women located throughout the country who are veterans or current members of the United States Armed Forces. The group was founded in July of 1976, when a group of 21 women who served in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) and Women's Army Corps (WAC) during World War II, Korean and Vietnam wars got together at Lucille Brown's house in Hampton, Virginia. At this chartered meeting, the group decided to locate and invite other former service women to a first reunion that was held in 1978 in Dallas, Texas.

Ever since, Biennial Reunions have continued to be held all through the country, where members discuss many of the issues facing the veteran community of black military women. The NABMW mission, "To seek out, record, maintain and tell the history and heritage of African-American Military Women who served and are serving in the United States Armed Forces" is as strong and power today on the organization's 40th anniversary as it was on the very first.

This year, NABMW is holding their biennial conference from August 10-14. I want to congratulate the entire organization on the occasion and thank them for their service.

IN RECOGNITION OF TYLER  
 WEGMEYER BEING NAMED VIR-  
 GINIA'S 2016 FARMER OF THE  
 YEAR

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Tyler Wegmeyer of Wegmeyer Farms in Loudoun County for being named the 2016 Farmer of the Year by the Virginia Cooperative Extension. This important milestone highlights the diversity and success of the agriculture industry in both Loudoun County and the Commonwealth as a whole.

Mr. Wegmeyer has lived in Loudoun with his wife, Harriet, for nearly 17 years. Their farm spans over 250 acres at four separate locations and employs over 80 people. Mr. Wegmeyer has a long career in agriculture both firsthand as a farmer and additionally as a policymaker.

The Wegmeyer family strongly believes in being good stewards of the land and caring for the environment. Their involvement in the community has been important to the growth of agro tourism and educating more people about how food is grown. It is the leaders like Mr. and Mrs. Wegmeyer who through their active engagement will continue to shape the agricultural sector of the United States as well as